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Migration and mobility in Western Australia



STATE ACCOUNTS

Western Australia's state final demand (trend chain volume measures) grew 0.7% (\$217 million) to \$31,323 million in the March quarter 2008. This followed higher growth rate in the previous two quarters of 1.4% (\$440 million) in the September quarter 2007 and 0.9% (\$282 million) in the December quarter 2007.



PRICES

Perth's Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose for three consecutive quarters, from 0.6% in the September quarter 2007 to 1.4% in the March quarter 2008. Perth's current quarter price rise is slightly higher than the national CPI rise of 1.3%.



CONSUMPTION

Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) recorded a total of \$6,419 million in the three months to April 2008, a decline of 0.1% (\$8 million) compared to the previous three month period. For the three months to May 2008, sales of new motor vehicles (trend) in Western Australia decreased by 0.4% (137) to 10,217 vehicles, following a growth 0.3% (104) recorded in the previous three month period.



INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Private new capital expenditure (trend chain volume measure) in Western Australia increased by 2.2% (up \$118 million) to \$5,427 million in the March quarter 2008, slightly higher than the previous quarter's growth of 2.1% (up \$111 million). The number of dwellings financed has slowed from a growth of 0.8% (217 commitments) in the three months to July 2007.



CONSTRUCTION

In the three months to April 2008, a total of 4,058 houses were approved for construction in Western Australia, 6.1% (264) less than in the previous three month period. Despite the fall in house approvals, other residential dwelling approvals have risen 8.9% (133 approvals) in the three months to April 2008.



TRADE

Western Australia's trade surplus grew 14.9% (\$1,302 million) to \$10,043 million for the year to March quarter 2008. Growth in the state's surplus resulted from strong exports growth (up \$2,605 million or 18.0%), while imports also increased (up \$1,303 million or 22.7%).



MINING

Mineral exploration expenditure (trend) in Western Australia grew by 7.7% (\$23 million) to \$321 million in the March quarter 2008.



TOURISM

A total of 65,051 overseas visitors arrived in Western Australia for holiday in the March quarter 2008, 1,900 (3.0%) more compared to the March quarter of 2007. In the March quarter 2008, a total of 82,825 Western Australians travelled overseas for a holiday, 17,611 (27.0%) more compared to the same quarter of 2007.



LABOUR MARKET

Job vacancies in Western Australia decreased by 16.9% (down 5,500) in the February quarter 2008. Western Australia's full-time employment (trend) rose 0.4% (up 3,600 persons) to 818,000 persons in the three months to May 2008. The unemployment rate (trend) in Western Australia rose marginally, from 3.2% in February 2008 to 3.4% in May 2008.



POPULATION

Western Australia's estimated resident population was 2,130,797 in the December quarter 2007, an increase of 0.6% (11,929 persons) from the previous quarter. Western Australia's quarterly population growth rate of 0.6% was second to Queensland (up 0.7% or 27,840 persons) and above the national rate increase of 0.4%.



SOCIAL TRENDS - Population and Health

In percentage terms, Western Australia's population growth of 17% between June 1997 and June 2007 was higher than the national average of 13% and was the second highest among the states and territories behind Queensland with 23%. In 2006, there were 11,600 deaths registered in Western Australia. The underlying causes of death were mainly cancer (malignant neoplasms), ischaemic heart disease and stroke - together accounting for more than half (55%) of all deaths.

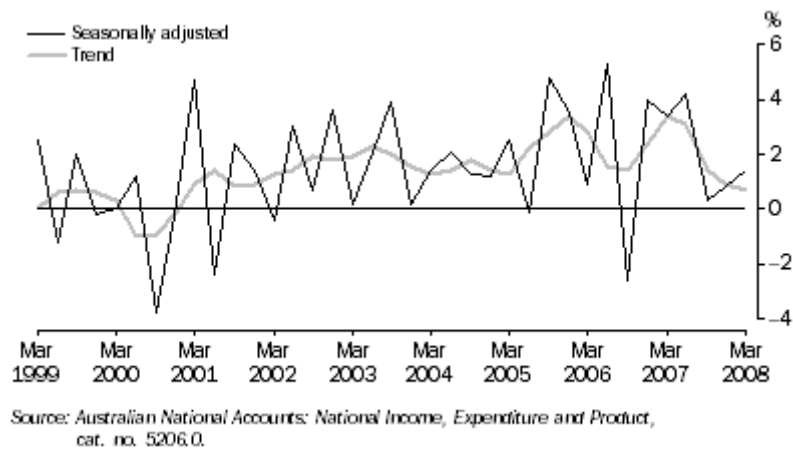
State accounts

STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE FINAL DEMAND

Western Australia's state final demand (trend chain volume measures) grew 0.7% (\$217 million) to \$31,323 million in the March quarter 2008. This followed higher growth rate in the previous two quarters of 1.4% (\$440 million) in the September quarter 2007 and 0.9% (\$282 million) in the December quarter 2007. In the March quarter 2008, Western Australia's state final demand growth of 0.7% was the third lowest growth amongst states and territories, with Tasmania (up 1.6%) recording the highest growth, followed by Northern Territory and Queensland (both up 1.3%). The low growth in Western Australia's state final demand can be attributed to the decline in private gross fixed capital formation (down 0.6% or \$68 million), with ownership transfer costs (down 6.8% or \$38 million), dwellings (down 1.0% or \$22 million) and intangible fixed assets (down 0.8% or \$7 million) recording decreases. In comparison, final consumption expenditure increased by 1.2% (\$216 million), with rises in households expenditure (up 1.3% or \$188 million) and general government expenditure (up 0.7% or \$28 million). Nationally, domestic final demand grew by 1.0%.

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures - Change from previous quarter



In seasonally adjusted chain volume terms, Western Australia's state final demand rose 1.4% (\$430 million) to \$31,429 million in the March quarter 2008, mainly due to private gross fixed capital formation (up 2.9% or \$321 million). Private business investment grew 9.3% (\$394 million) for non-dwelling construction and 5.5% (\$47 million) for intangible fixed assets. Public gross fixed capital formation also recorded growth (up 11.1% or \$137 million), with general government up 12.3% (\$85 million) and public corporations up 9.9% (\$53 million) in the March quarter 2008. Detracting from growth over this period were falls in final consumption expenditure of households (down 0.3% or \$40 million), machinery and equipment (down 1.8% or \$56 million), dwellings (down 1.8% or \$40 million) and ownership transfer costs (down 4.4% or \$24 million).

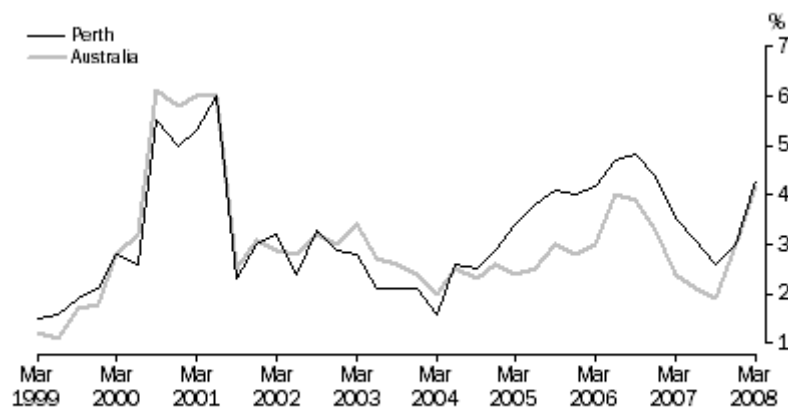
Prices

PRICES

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Perth's Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose for three consecutive quarters, from 0.6% in the September quarter 2007 to 1.4% in the March quarter 2008. Perth's current quarter price rise is slightly higher than the national CPI rise of 1.3%. The main driver of Perth's CPI rise in the March quarter 2008 was automotive fuel (up 6.6%). Other significant contributors included rents (up 3.4%), pharmaceuticals (up 11.9%), vegetables (up 6.6%) and fruit (up 6.2%). Partially offsetting those rises were furniture (down 5.4%), audio, visual and computing equipment (down 5.8%) and men's outerwear (down 6.5%).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL GROUPS), Change from same quarter previous year



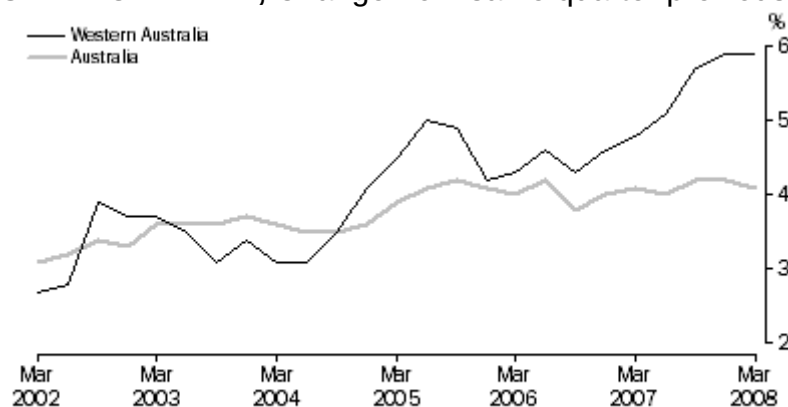
Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6401.0.

For the year to March quarter 2008, the CPI for Perth rose 4.3%, following rises of 2.6% for the year to September quarter 2007 and 3.0% for the year to December quarter 2007. Perth's year to March quarter 2008 CPI rise of 4.3% was the fourth lowest among Australian capital cities, with Brisbane (4.8%) recording the highest CPI rise. The main contributors to Perth's annual price growth were automotive fuel (up 17.6%), rents (up 12.1%) and deposit and loan facilities (7.3%). Nationally, the CPI rose 4.2% through the year to March quarter 2008, higher than the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) medium-term target range of 2-3 percent for inflation, which led to an increase in official interest rates of 25 basis points (to 7.25%) in March 2008.

WAGE PRICE INDEX

Western Australia's Wage Price Index (WPI) of total hourly rates of pay (excluding bonuses) for all sectors rose 1.0% in the March quarter 2008, lower than the two previous rates of 1.8% and 1.3% recorded in the September and December quarters of 2007 respectively. In the current quarter, private sector wage prices rose 1.0%, which was higher than the public sector's wage growth of 0.8%. Western Australia's WPI growth of 1.0% was equal highest with New South Wales and Victoria and was above the Australian WPI rise of 0.9%.

WAGE PRICE INDEX, Change from same quarter previous year



Source: Labour Price Index, Australia, cat. no. 6345.0.

Through the year to March quarter 2008, Western Australia all sectors' WPI grew by 5.9%, a rate that is the same as the previous year. This through the year change remains the highest WPI growth since the series began in the September quarter of 1997 and is higher than other states and territories, with South Australia showing the next highest growth of 4.6%, followed by Queensland (4.1%). At the Australian level, WPI growth rose by 4.1% through

the year to March quarter 2008.

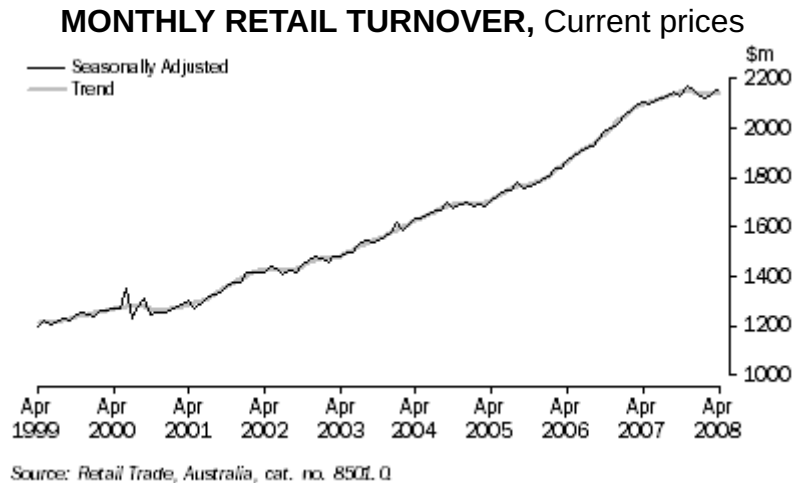
Between the quarters of March 2007 and 2008, Western Australia recorded strong wage growth in the industries of Mining (7.8%), Manufacturing (6.6%), Construction and Personal and other services (both 6.2%). In contrast, Retail trade (4.5%) and Education (4.6%) showed low growth. From an occupation perspective, wage prices growth was strong for Tradespersons and related workers (7.9%), Intermediate production and transport workers (6.6%) and Associate professionals (6.0%), while Elementary clerical, sales and services workers (4.2%) and Managers and administrators (5.1%) showed weaker growth over the same annual period.

Consumption

CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) recorded a total of \$6,419 million in the three months to April 2008, a decline of 0.1% (\$8 million) compared to the previous three month period. The 0.1% decline was the first decrease since the three months to January 2001 (down 0.8% or \$30 million). The nation's retail turnover increased by 0.2% in the three months to April 2008, lower than the rise of 1.2% in the previous three month period.



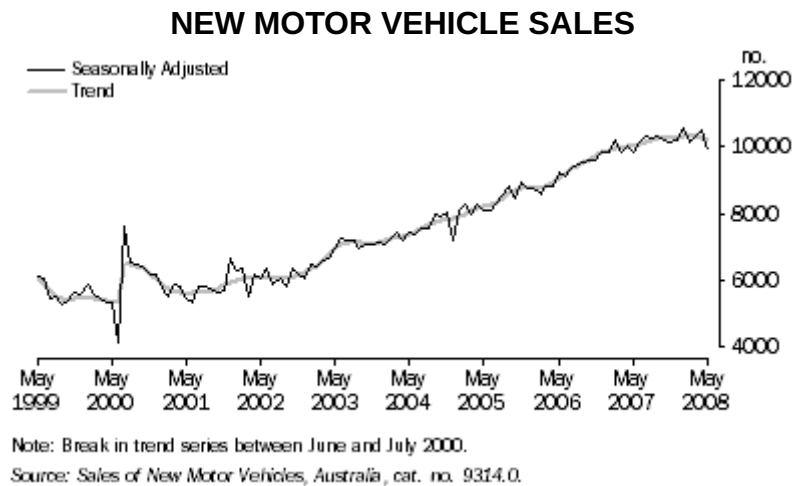
The decline in Western Australia's retail turnover (trend) for the three months to April 2008 (compared to the previous three months) was primarily driven by price falls in Household good retailing (down \$49 million or 4.3%), Hospitality and services (down \$28 million or 3.3%) and Clothing and soft good retailing (down \$1 million or 0.1%). The main industries offsetting the decline in Western Australia's retail turnover were Recreational good retailing (up \$40 million or 13.9%), Other retailing (up \$16 million or 2.6%) and Food retailing (up \$14 million or 0.5%).

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In Western Australia, sales of passenger vehicles (trend) fell for nine consecutive months,

peaking at 5,716 vehicles for August 2007 and declining to 5,389 vehicles in May 2008. Sales of Sport utilities on the other hand, rose for ten consecutive months from June 2007 (2,035 vehicles) to March 2008 (2,239 vehicles) before declining for two consecutive months to 2,217 vehicles in May 2008.

For the three months to May 2008, sales of new motor vehicles (trend) in Western Australia decreased by 0.4% (137) to 10,217 vehicles, following a growth 0.3% (104) recorded in the previous three month period. The declining growth can be attributable to the decrease in passenger vehicles, down 2.1% (356) in the three months to May 2008. Conversely, Other vehicles sales (other vehicles comprise utilities, panel vans, cab chassis, goods carry vans, rigid trucks, prime movers, non-freight carrying trucks, and buses) rose 2.1% (161) and Sports utility vehicles grew 0.9% (58) to 6,685 vehicles.



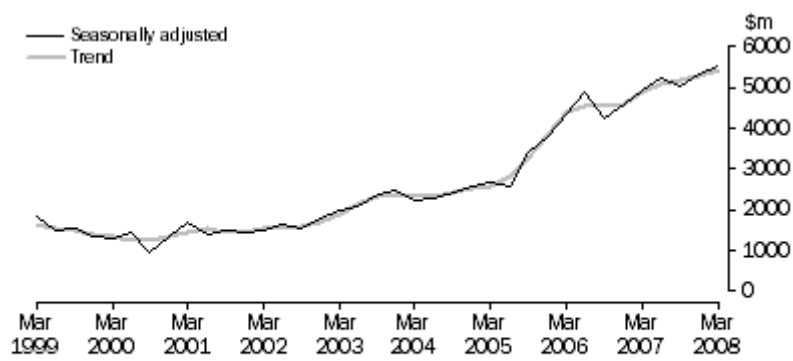
Investment and finance

INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Private new capital expenditure (trend chain volume measure) in Western Australia increased by 2.2% (up \$118 million) to \$5,427 million in the March quarter 2008, slightly higher than the previous quarter's growth of 2.1% (up \$111 million). The rise in the March quarter 2008, was driven by investment in buildings and structures (up 4.0% or \$138 million). In contrast, equipment, plant and machinery was down (down 1.6% or \$30 million). Western Australia's growth of 2.2% in private new capital expenditure over this period was considerably higher than the 0.4% of national growth.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures



Note: Break in trend series between December 2006 and March 2007.

Source: *Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia*, cat. no. 5625.0.

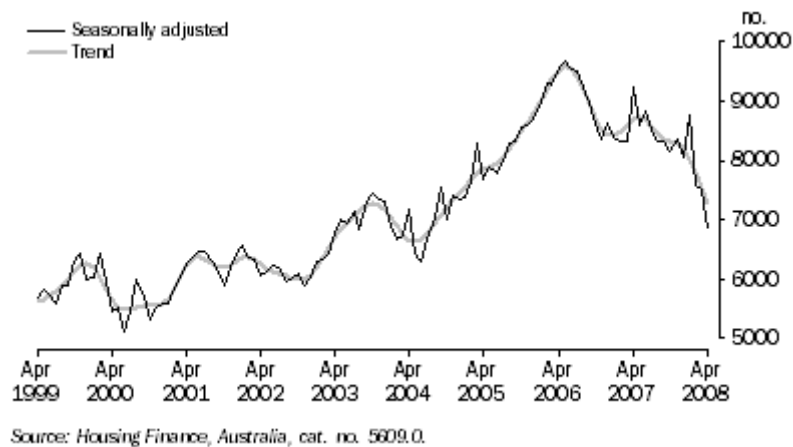
In original current prices terms, Western Australia's business investment has slowed. In the year to September 2007 business investment rose 21.8% (up \$898 million), whereas in the year to March 2008, business investment rose 15.4% (up \$730 million) to \$5,467 million. The rise between the March quarter 2007 and 2008, was driven by increased investment in the mining industry, up 29.4% (up \$966 million). Both Other selected industries (including retail trade, property and business services and construction) (down 18.7% or \$202 million) and Manufacturing (down 9.3% or \$35 million) recorded a decline in expenditure over the same period.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The number of dwellings financed for owner occupation (trend) in Western Australia has fallen for eleven consecutive months, peaking at 8,713 commitments in May 2007 down to 7,285 commitments in April 2008. Increase in the number of dwellings financed has slowed, from a growth of 0.8% (217 commitments) in the three months to July 2007, declining for three consecutive quarters - down 3.2% (838 commitments), 2.3% (584 commitments) and 7.8% (1,915 commitments) for the October 2007, January 2008 and April 2008 quarters respectively.

A similar pattern followed in original terms, the number of dwellings financed in Western Australia increased by 11.8% (2,912 commitments) in the three months to July 2007, followed by three consecutive decreases of 9.0% (2,472 commitments), 3.5% (875 commitments) and 12.1% (2,935 commitments) in the three months to October 2007, January 2008 and April 2008 respectively. Dwellings financed by non-first home buyers (down 12.4% or 2,469 commitments) and first home buyers (down 10.9% or 466 commitments) both recorded decreases in the three months to April 2008.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, Number of dwellings financed



In the three months to April 2008, the total value of housing finance for owner occupation (original) in Western Australia decreased by 8.5% (\$478 million) to \$5,162 million, with both first home buyers (down 8.8% or \$87 million) and non-first home buyers (down 8.4% or \$391 million) recording falls, compared to the previous three months. The average loan size for first home buyers increased by 2.4% (\$5,562) and for non-first home buyers increased by 4.5% (\$10,503). In the three months to April 2008, the average loan size for first home buyers (\$238,399) was \$4,730 less than for non-first home buyers (\$243,129).

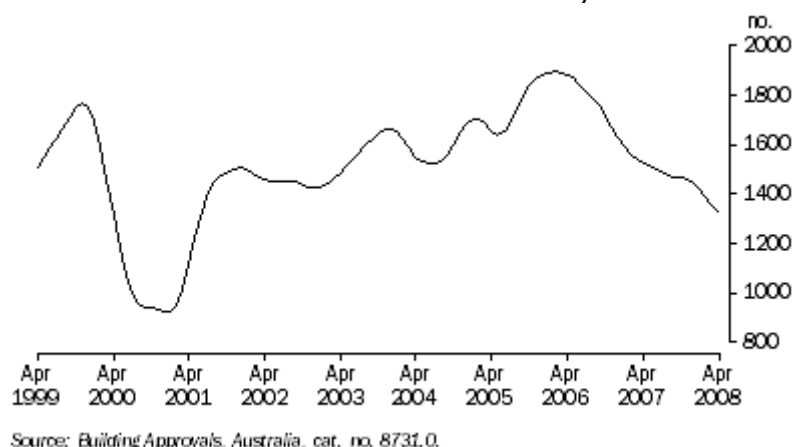
Construction

CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In Western Australia the number of house approvals (trend) has continued to decline for 26 consecutive months between February 2006 (1,893) and April 2008 (1,324) - down 30.1% or 569 approvals. During the period of decline, house approvals fell by 1.4% (22 approvals) on average per month. In the three months to April 2008, a total of 4,058 houses were approved for construction in Western Australia, 6.1% (264) less than in the previous three month period. Despite the fall in house approvals, other residential dwelling approvals have risen 8.9% (133 approvals) in the three months to April 2008 - other dwellings comprise semi-detached houses, townhouses and flats, units and apartments.

NUMBER OF DWELLINGS APPROVED, Houses: Trend



In the three months to April 2008, the number of new house approvals (original) in Western Australia fell by 5.3% (218 approvals), from the previous three month period. In contrast, the total number of building approvals recorded a growth (up 0.3% or 17 approvals), following decreases of 6.0% (381 approvals) and 5.1% (304 approvals) in the three months to October 2007 and January 2008 respectively. In terms of value of approval, new houses declined (down 5.3% or \$60 million) to \$1,066 million and the value of total building approvals also decreased (down 31.6% or \$1,082 million) to \$2,343 million in the three months to April 2008.

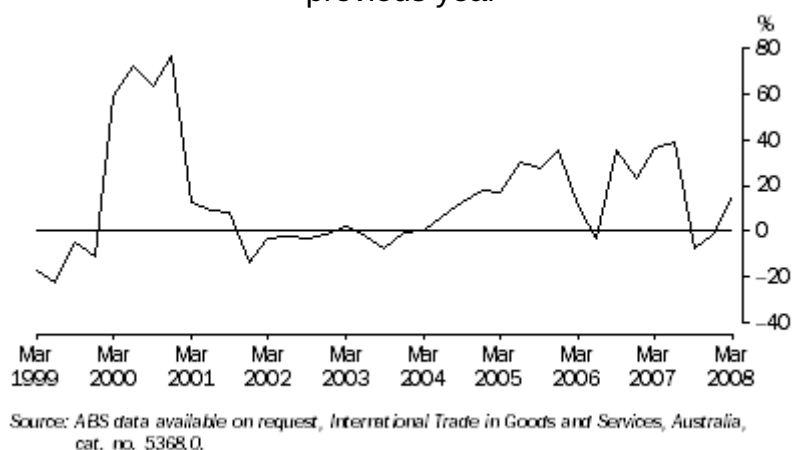
Trade

TRADE

BALANCE OF TRADE

Western Australia's trade surplus grew 14.9% (\$1,302 million) to \$10,043 million for the year to March quarter 2008. It is the first rise after two successive declines for the year to September and the year to December quarters of 2007 (-7.7% and -1.5% respectively). Growth in the state's surplus resulted from strong exports growth (up \$2,605 million or 18.0%), compared to the previous year period (up \$479 million or 3.1%). Imports continued to increase (up \$1,303 million or 22.7%) compared to the same quarter of 2007 (up \$628 million or 11.2%).

VALUE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S TRADE SURPLUS, Change from same quarter previous year



Between the March quarters of 2007 and 2008, the main countries contributing to the growth in Western Australia's trade surplus included China (up \$724 million), United Kingdom (up \$715 million), Singapore (up \$409 million) and India (up \$363 million). In contrast, lower trade surpluses were recorded with Switzerland (down \$397 million), United Arab Emirates (down \$302 million), Thailand (down \$295 million) and Republic of Korea (down \$188 million).

EXPORTS

Of the 18.0% (\$2,605 million) rise in Western Australia's exports to \$17,097 million for the year to March quarter 2008, the main commodities contributing were iron ore and concentrates (up \$1,162 million or 33.5%), non-monetary gold (up \$767 million or 30.4%), crude petroleum oils (up \$583 million or 34.8%) and natural gas (up \$217 million or 22.2%). Over the same period, major commodities detracting from exports growth were nickel (down \$217 million or 59.3%), confidential items (down \$201 million or 7.6%), wool and other animal hair (down \$73 million or 48.6%) and nickel ores and concentrates (down \$56 million or 15.5%).

IMPORTS

Between the March quarters of 2007 and 2008, the value of imports to Western Australia increased 22.7% (up \$1,303 million) to \$7,054 million. The major commodities driving the growth in imports were non-monetary gold (up \$550 million or 45.7%), crude petroleum oils (up \$405 million or 83.9%), civil engineering plant and equipment (up \$213 million or 118.7%) and refined petroleum oils (up \$184 million or 56.8%). The major commodities that recorded declines in imports over this annual period were ships, boats and floating structures (down \$45 million or 56.5%), parts and accessories of office machines (down \$20 million or 54.6%), iron or steel tubes and pipes (down \$18 million or 18.6%) and rubber tyres (down \$7 million or 8.4%).

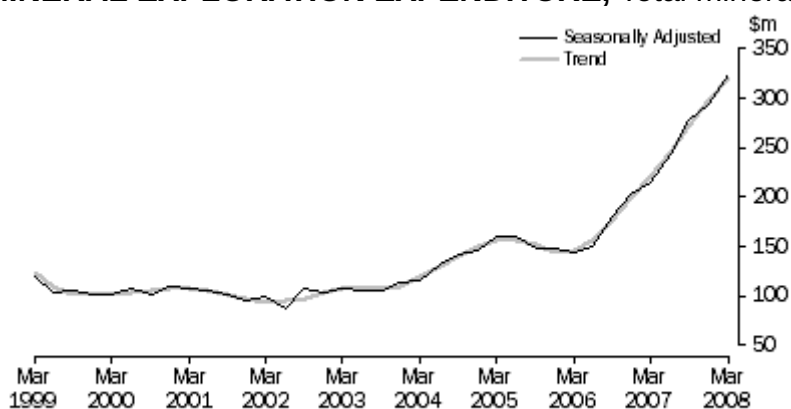
Mining

MINING

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

Mineral exploration expenditure (trend) in Western Australia grew by 7.7% (\$23 million) to \$321 million in the March quarter 2008. Although this rise was lower than the previous quarterly rise of 9.5% (\$26 million), it is the ninth consecutive quarterly rise since December quarter 2005 (\$145 million) and was higher than the national growth of 7.4% (\$44 million). In the March quarter 2008, Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure accounted for 50.6% of the nation's expenditure of \$634 million, with Queensland (15.9%) being the next biggest contributor.

MINERAL EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Total minerals



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, cat. no. 8412.0.

Western Australia's mineral exploration expenditure (original) rose 50.9% (\$92 million) to \$271 million through the year to March quarter 2008. Minerals exploration expenditure that recorded growth over this period were Iron ore (up \$33 million or 67.1%), Gold (up \$22 million or 33.8%), Nickel and cobalt (up \$21 million or 55.6%) and Copper (up \$4 million or 91.5%). Petroleum exploration expenditure (original) in Western Australia rose 56.1% (\$179 million) to \$499 million through the year to March quarter 2008.

MINERAL AND ENERGY PRODUCTION

Through the year to March quarter 2008, production increased across most mineral commodities in Western Australia. Minerals production recording growth were Zinc (up 64.0%), Iron ore (up 17.9%), Bauxite (up 4.4%) and Nickel (up 4.3%). In contrast, Diamonds (down 36.4%), Gold (down 17.9%) and Ilmenite (down 10.0%) production declined through the year. Energy production in the state rose for Electricity (up 5.3%) while Crude oil (down 7.6%) and Natural gas (down 0.5%) declined over the same period of time.

Tourism

TOURISM

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY ARRIVALS

A total of 65,051 overseas visitors arrived in Western Australia for holiday in the March quarter 2008, 1,900 (3.0%) more compared to the March quarter of 2007. Holiday travel, through the year to March quarter 2008, rose from residents of Malaysia (up 877 or 19.9%), New Zealand (up 672 or 34.3%) and Indonesia (up 593 or 45.8%). In contrast, there were less holiday makers coming from Japan (down 1,514 or 26.2%), United Kingdom and Ireland (down 901 or 4.0%) and Thailand (down 308 or 36.8%).

SHORT-TERM OVERSEAS HOLIDAY DEPARTURES

In the March quarter 2008, a total of 82,825 Western Australians travelled overseas for a holiday, 17,611 (27.0%) more compared to the same quarter of 2007. Overseas destinations that received the largest increases in Western Australian travellers were Indonesia (up 10,090 or 75.2%), Thailand (up 1,981 or 21.2%), Hong Kong (up 1,266 or 69.2%) and New Zealand (up 1,191 or 17.1%). However, there were less Western Australian holiday seekers travelling to Europe (excluding United Kingdom and Ireland) (down 396 or 14.7%), South Africa (down 50 or 5.5%) and United Kingdom and Ireland (down 43 persons or 1.3%) over the same period.

Labour market

LABOUR MARKET

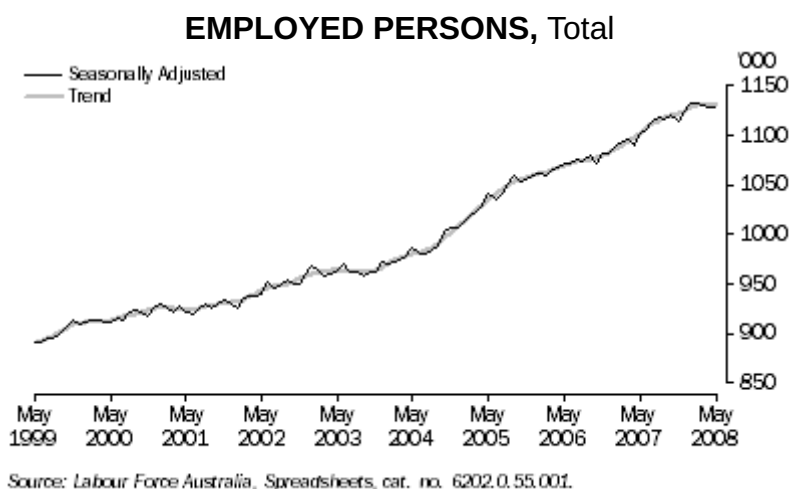
JOB VACANCIES

Job vacancies in Western Australia decreased by 16.9% (down 5,500) in the February quarter 2008, after experiencing increases for eight consecutive quarters, from 20,600 job vacancies in the February quarter 2006 to 32,600 for the November quarter 2007. Through the year to February quarter 2008, job vacancies in Western Australia increased by 8.3% (up 2,100) to 27,100. The increase is attributed to the public sector (up 1,000 or 75.9%) and the private sector (up 1,100 or 4.5%) both recording growth.

EMPLOYMENT

Western Australia's full-time employment (trend) rose 0.4% (up 3,600 persons) to 818,000 persons in the three months to May 2008, following growth of 1.0% (8,000 persons) in the previous three month period. The increase in the three months to May 2008 was attributable to increases in both female full-time employment (up 0.6% or 1,700 persons) and male full-time employment (up 0.3% or 1,900 persons).

Estimated part-time employment in Western Australia fell 0.8% (down 2,400 persons) to 312,800 persons in the three months to May 2008. This was wholly attributable to male part-time employment (down 2.8% or 2,400 persons). Overall, employment numbers rose 0.1% (1,200 persons) to 1,130,800 persons in the three months to May 2008.



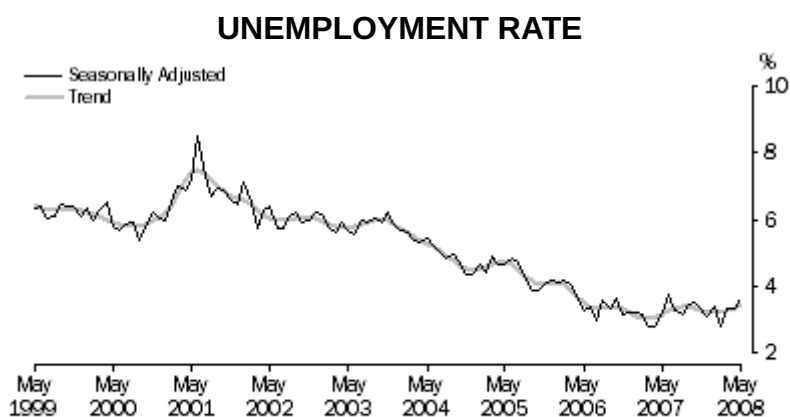
The main industries contributing to the rise in Western Australia's employment (original) through the year to May 2008 (up 25,000 or 2.3%) were Mining (up 24,200 persons or 48.8%), Construction (up 16,000 or 15.1%), Education (up 9,700 persons or 12.7%) and Manufacturing (up 7,800 persons or 8.0%). In contrast, industries that recorded declining growth over the same period of time included Retail trade (down 10,200 persons or 6.4%), Agriculture, forestry and fishing (down 6,500 persons or 15.1%) and Government administration and defence (down 4,400 persons or 8.6%).

From an occupation perspective, the main occupations driving the state's employment growth were Tradesperson and related workers (up 19,400 persons or 13.3%), Intermediate production and transport workers (up 16,400 persons or 16.0%), Associate professionals (up 3,500 persons or 2.5%) and Managers and administrators (up 3,300 persons or 4.0%). However, decreases for the year to May 2008 were recorded for the occupations of

Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (down 11,100 persons or 6.1%), Elementary clerical, sales and service workers (down 10,200 persons or 10.4%) and Advanced clerical and service workers (down 600 persons or 1.6%).

UNEMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rate (trend) in Western Australia rose marginally, from 3.2% in February 2008 to 3.4% in May 2008. Nationally, the unemployment rate also slightly increased, from 4.1% to 4.2% between February and May 2008. The number of unemployed persons (trend) rose by 7.2% (2,700 persons) to 40,200 persons in Western Australia in the three months to May 2008. Unemployed Males contributed twice as much to the unemployment figure with an increase of 9.5% (1,900 persons), while the female unemployment figures were up 4.6% (800 persons).



Population

POPULATION

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Western Australia's estimated resident population was 2,130,797 in the December quarter 2007, an increase of 0.6% (11,929 persons) from the previous quarter. Western Australia's quarterly population growth rate of 0.6% was second to Queensland (up 0.7% or 27,840 persons) and above the national rate increase of 0.4%. In the December quarter 2007, Western Australia recorded a natural increase of 3,871 persons (6,848 births less 2,977 deaths), while net overseas migration (up 7,543 persons) and net interstate migration (up 515 persons) also added to the state's population.

Social trends

SOCIAL TRENDS

POPULATION AND HEALTH

Population characteristics

In June 2007, Western Australia's estimated resident population was 2.11 million persons. From June 2006 to June 2007, Western Australia had the highest growth in the nation, which was an increase of 46,800 persons (2%) from June 2006 and 307,700 persons (17%) from June 1997. In percentage terms, Western Australia's population growth of 17% between June 1997 and June 2007 was higher than the national average of 13% and was the second highest among the states and territories behind Queensland with 23%.

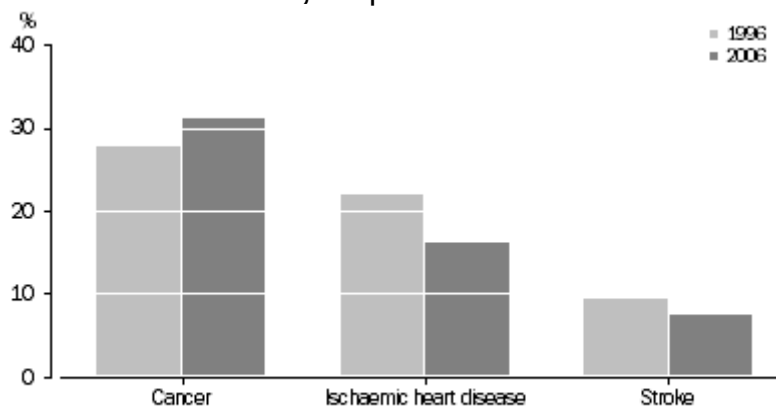
In June 2007, the median age (the age at which half the population is older and half is younger) of the Western Australian population was 36.4 years. This is slightly younger than the national median age of 36.8 years. The median age of the Western Australian population increased from 33.5 years in 1997.

The ratio of males to females aged 0-64 years increased slightly between 1997 and 2007 (103.8 and 104.7 males per 100 females respectively). However, for those aged 65 years and over, the ratio increased from 79.7 to 85.7 males per 100 females over the same ten year period. In 2006, life expectancy at birth was 83.8 years for females and 79.1 years for males in Western Australia. Between 1997 and 2006, the difference in life expectancy between males and females fell from 5.9 to 4.7 years.

Causes of death

In 2006, there were 11,600 deaths registered in Western Australia. The underlying causes of death were mainly cancer (malignant neoplasms), ischaemic heart disease and stroke - together accounting for more than half (55%) of all deaths. Cancer was the leading underlying cause of 3,600 deaths. Of those deaths, 20% (714) were caused by cancers of the trachea, bronchus and lungs. From 1996 to 2006, the proportion of deaths caused by cancer increased from 28% to 31%. Ischaemic heart disease accounted for 16.3% (1,900) of deaths in 2006, a decrease from 22% of deaths in 1996. Stroke accounted for 7.6% (880) of deaths in 2006, slightly lower than in 1996 (9.5%).

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, Proportion of total deaths - Western Australia



Source: Causes of Death, Australia, cat. no. 3303.0.

In 2006, the leading cause of death for persons aged 15-24 years in Western Australia was transport accidents, accounting for 39% (71 deaths) of deaths in this age group. The

proportion was higher for males than females (43% compared to 30% respectively). Suicide accounted for 17% of deaths in the 15-24 year age group, with the proportion of males and females almost identical (both 17%).

Main Features

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

September 2008
December 2008

Release Date

8 October 2008
14 January 2009

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

No changes in this issue.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 24 June 2008. Explanatory Notes of the form found in other ABS publications are not included in **Western Australian Statistical Indicators**. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

REVISIONS

Data contained in this publication are subject to revision as more complete and accurate information becomes available each quarter.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Sue Lee on Perth (08) 9360 5111.

List of Historical Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

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Jun 2001	Use of information technology in Western Australia Methods of setting pay in Western Australia
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About this Release

Contains the most recent statistics for Western Australia covering: state accounts; prices; consumption; investment and finance; construction; trade; mining and energy; agriculture; tourism; labour market; population; crime; and social trends. Quarterly issues include an analysis of recent movements in key state data, as well as feature articles reviewing aspects of Western Australia's economy and/or society.

Migration and Mobility in Western Australia (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: MIGRATION AND MOBILITY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, migration has been the most influential component of population growth in Western Australia. Between June 1996 and June 2006, net migration (both overseas and inter-state) accounted for 53.4% of Western Australia's estimated population growth, contributing to a net increase of 85,939 persons. At the time of the 2006 Census, 43.8% of persons (aged 5 years or more) living in Western Australia had moved since 2001. Of these, 7.9% had moved to WA from another state, and a further 12.6% had arrived from overseas.

The current resources boom has placed considerable pressure on Western Australia's ability to provide a workforce able to cope with new developments and projects. Migration is therefore necessary for the sustainability of WA's current economy. This has led to an increase in the number of houses being built, resulting in increased energy and water use and expanding infrastructure and service needs. Thus, migration has impacted on the economic, social and environmental aspects of Western Australia and has significant implications for the future of the state.

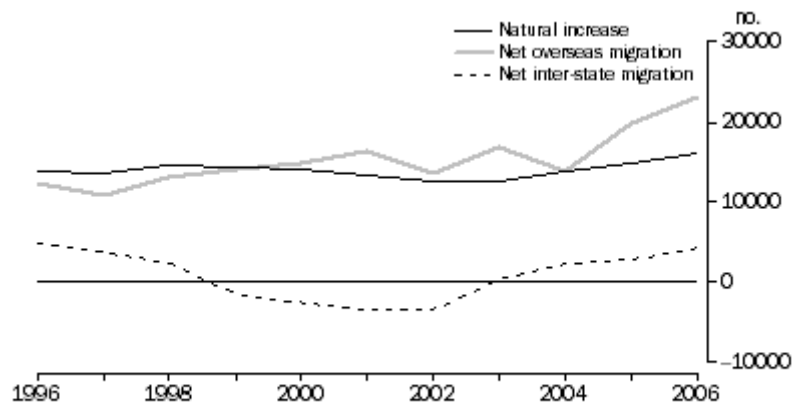
The analysis in this article will focus on demographic data for persons who were counted as living in Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census. The Census provides a wealth of information about the characteristics of people who moved to Western Australia between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, whether from overseas, (described as recent arrivals), or from another state or territory.

The analysis will also provide a view of how Western Australians have moved within WA to capitalise on employment opportunities or lifestyle changes. The demographic analysis will include regional movements, occupation and industry characteristics of employed movers, as well as post-school qualifications of movers.

OVERSEAS MIGRATION

Overseas migration has a significant influence on the future of Western Australia's community, labour force and economy. It has had a major impact on the size of Western Australia's population growth. Since 2000, overseas migration has been the largest contributor to population growth in Western Australia, mainly due to the current economic boom and associated employment opportunities. Overseas migration contributed 53.1% of Western Australia's population growth in 2006.

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH, Western Australia

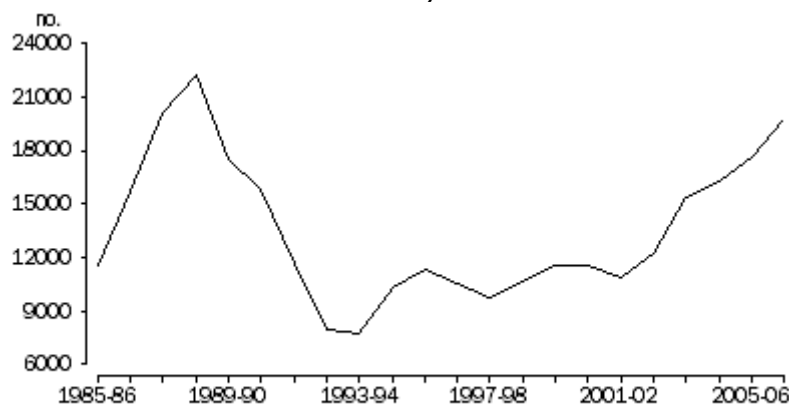


Source: Australian Demographic Statistics, cat. no. 3101.0

Increases in migrant quotas and subsequent changes to immigration policy to attract skilled workers, have resulted in a steady increase of permanent settlers in Western Australia, culminating in 19,783 new permanent settlers in 2006-07 (www.diac.gov.au and www.immi.gov.au).

Permanent arrivals (settlers) data apply to overseas born residents who live permanently in Australia. This includes travellers who hold migrant visas (regardless of stated intended period of stay); New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to migrate permanently; and those who are otherwise eligible to settle including for family, skilled labour and humanitarian reasons.

SETTLER ARRIVALS, Western Australia



Source: Department of Immigration and Citizenship 2008, Settler Arrivals 2006-07

At the time of the 2006 Census, 27.1% (531,746) of Western Australians had been born overseas. More than three-quarters (77.7%) had immigrated to Australia before the 2001 Census. Of these, the majority were born in Europe with 49.8% born in North-West Europe and 12.2% in Southern and Eastern Europe, reflecting pre- and post-World War II displacement and Australian immigration policies at that time. Those Western Australians who immigrated to Australia before the 2001 Census had a median age of 51 years at the time of the 2006 Census.

Recent settlers who arrived after 2001, have different characteristics from pre-2001 migrants, and have a greater impact on labour force capabilities and housing as well as education and training programs. The following analysis will focus on persons born overseas, who arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2006 (before 8th August) and were counted as usual residents of Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census. This includes persons migrating to Australia from another country, persons who returned to

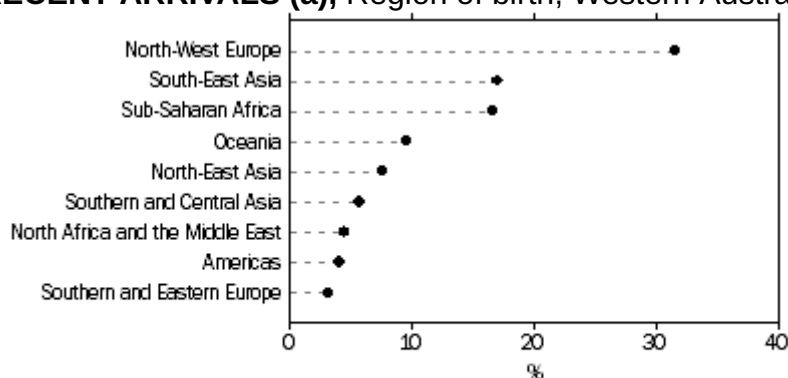
Australia after living overseas and foreign students, living in Australia on long-term visas.

Arrived between 2001 and 2006

Of all persons who had moved to Western Australia between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, 101,089 lived overseas at the time of the 2001 Census. These represented 5.5% of all persons aged more than 5 years counted as living in WA at the time of the 2006 Census.

Of the persons born overseas who had arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2006, 93,527 were counted as living in Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census. Almost one-third (31.5%) were born in North-West Europe, another 17% were born in South-East Asia and 16.6% were born in Sub-Saharan Africa.

RECENT ARRIVALS (a), Region of birth, Western Australia



(a) Arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2006.
Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

As in 2001, the top three countries of origin for recent arrivals as reported in the 2006 Census were England, New Zealand and South Africa, which combined, accounted for over 40% (37,786) of all recent arrivals to 2006.

Meanwhile, Sudan has climbed significantly in the recent arrivals rankings between the 2001 and 2006 Census (ranked 41st in 2001 to 13th in 2006). Zimbabwe has moved from 14th to 10th while Thailand and the Republic of Korea (South) have moved from 22nd to 16th and 27th to 18th respectively. Indonesia has dropped from 4th to 9th.

TOP 20 COUNTRIES, RECENT ARRIVALS (2001-2006), Western Australia

Country of birth	Ranking 2006	Ranking 2001(a)	Recent arrivals		Median Age years	Aged under 25 yrs %	Aged over 55 yrs %	Employed %
			No.	%				
England	1	1	21 268	22.7	33	36.4	10.2	69.6
New Zealand	2	2	8 550	9.1	27	42.1	7.1	78.0
South Africa	3	3	7 968	8.5	30	43.3	6.0	69.6
Malaysia	4	6	4 680	5.0	22	63.2	2.9	41.4
Singapore	5	5	3 804	4.1	23	54.6	3.7	42.4
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	6	8	3 353	3.6	24	51.8	2.5	44.9
India	7	9	3 162	3.4	30	32.2	5.9	66.9
Scotland	8	7	2 919	3.1	33	34.4	6.6	74.3
Indonesia	9	4	2 639	2.8	22	57.0	2.9	42.5
Zimbabwe	10	14	2 626	2.8	28	45.6	4.5	74.3
United States of America	11	10	1 812	1.9	27	45.8	5.8	59.5
Philippines	12	12	1 802	1.9	32	28.9	1.9	66.7

Sudan	13	41 1 579	1.7	21	57.1	1.5	27.6
Japan	14	13 1 271	1.4	28	35.7	5.7	39.8
Kenya	15	19 1 230	1.3	23	56.3	3.3	68.3
Thailand	16	22 1 155	1.2	27	43.3	1.6	46.9
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	17	15 1 121	1.2	21	75.2	1.5	34.3
Korea, Republic of (South)	18	27 1 056	1.1	25	49.2	1.8	36.2
Ireland	19	23 1 026	1.1	29	29.6	6.0	75.0
Canada	20	21 1 018	1.1	28	36.2	3.2	70.2

(a) Arrived in Australia between 1996 and 6 August 2001

Source: Unpublished 2001 and 2006 Census data

WA regional analysis

As a proportion of the total usual resident population in each region, Perth had the highest proportion of recent arrivals (5.6% or 81,552), followed by the South Eastern region (3.8% or 1,997) and the Pilbara region (3.6% or 1,468).

Of the 93,527 recent arrivals living in Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census, the vast majority lived in Perth (87.2% or 81,552). This varied from 97.2% (4,064) of recent arrivals from North Africa and the Middle East to 70.1% (6,272) of recent arrivals from Oceania settling in Perth. Settlers from Oceania were the most regionally spread in WA with 8.6% (773) settling in South Eastern WA (compared to 2.1% of total recent arrivals); 7.6% (682) settling in the South West (compared to 5.0% of all recent arrivals); and 5.2% (461) settling in the Pilbara (compared to 1.6% of all recent arrivals). Relative to other regions of birth, a significant number of recent arrivals from North-West Europe (2,124 or 7.2%) also settled in South West WA.

RECENT ARRIVALS, REGION OF BIRTH, WA STATISTICAL DIVISION, 2006 Census

Statistical Division	Oceania	North-West Europe	Southern and Eastern Europe	North Africa and the Middle East	South-East Asia	North-East Asia	Southern and Central Asia	Americas	Sub-Saharan Africa	Total
NUMBER										
Perth	6 272	25 693	2 780	4 064	14 644	6 724	4 836	3 294	13 030	81 552
South West	682	2 124	80	50	373	120	127	195	8784	635
Lower Great Southern	151	259	18	4	166	87	87	48	161	984
Upper Great Southern	57	59	3	-	14	-	4	10	56	206
Midlands	152	262	10	7	63	10	23	32	254	816
South Eastern	773	221	26	22	175	47	41	77	6151	997
Central	181	262	15	7	98	24	41	67	151	846
Pilbara	461	212	23	12	234	19	145	70	2841	468
Kimberley	95	108	15	3	57	27	21	28	45	399
Total	8 942	29 493	2 978	4 182	15 875	7 084	5 358	3 853	15 521	93 527
PERCENTAGE										
Perth	70.1	87.1	93.4	97.2	92.2	94.9	90.3	85.5	84.0	87.2

South West	7.6	7.2	2.7	1.2	2.3	1.7	2.4	5.1	5.7	5.0
Lower Great Southern	1.7	0.9	0.6	0.1	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.0	1.1
Upper Great Southern	0.6	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2
Midlands	1.7	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.6	0.9
South Eastern	8.6	0.7	0.9	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.8	2.0	4.0	2.1
Central	2.0	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.8	1.7	1.0	0.9
Pilbara	5.2	0.7	0.8	0.3	1.5	0.3	2.7	1.8	1.8	1.6
Kimberley	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

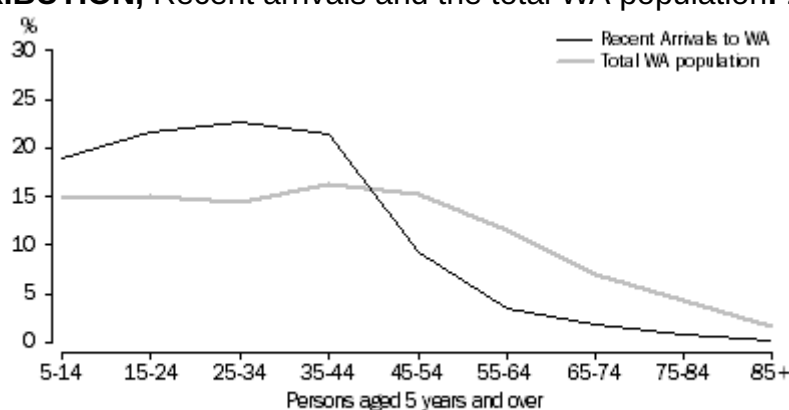
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Source: Unpublished 2006 Census data

Recent arrivals demographics

The age profile of recent arrivals living in Western Australia is younger than the total Western Australian population. At the time of the 2006 Census, the median age for persons who had recently arrived in Western Australia was 28 years compared with 36 years for the total WA population.

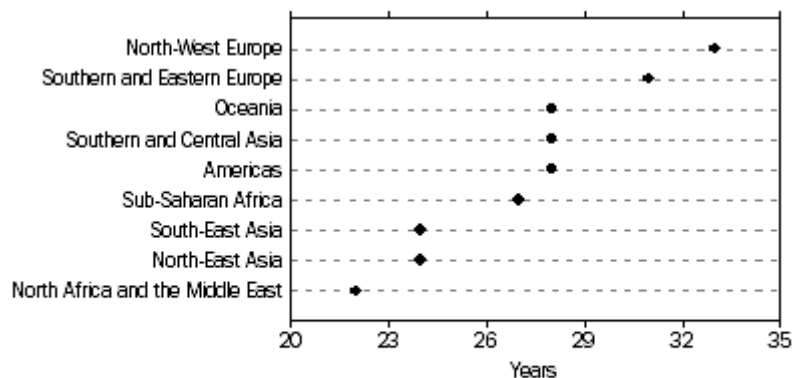
AGE DISTRIBUTION, Recent arrivals and the total WA population: 2006 Census



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

There are some age profile differences according to country of birth. The youngest median age profile belonged to persons born in North Africa and the Middle East (22 years) while the oldest median age profile belonged to persons born in North-West Europe (33 years).

RECENT ARRIVALS (a), Median Age, Western Australia



(a) Arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2006.

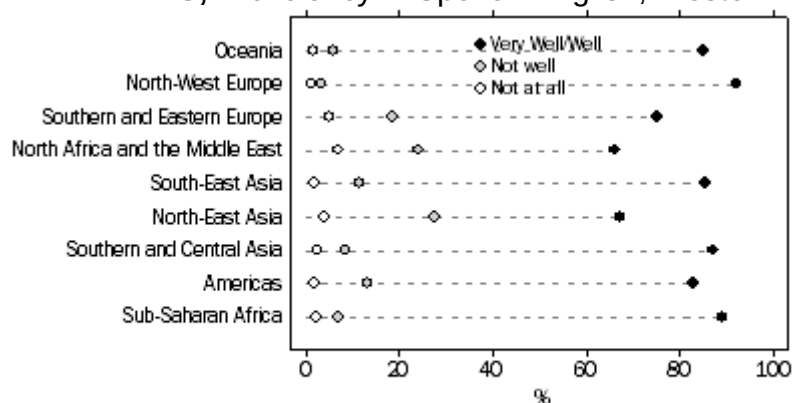
Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Recent arrivals were more likely to live in couple with children households (56.2% compared with 49.3% for the WA population as a whole), and were less likely to live in couple only households (18.5% compared to 21.4% for WA). Recent arrivals were more than twice as likely to live in group households (7.5% compared with 2.8% for WA) but half as likely to live in lone person households (4.9% compared with 10.5% for WA). This pattern could reflect overseas students living in shared accommodation.

Almost two-thirds of persons born in the Sub-Saharan African region lived in couple with children households (64.5%). One in four persons born in the Americas and in Southern and Eastern Europe lived in couple only households (26.3% and 25.6% respectively).

A language other than English was spoken at home by almost half of WA's recent arrivals (45% or 42,053 people). Of these, more than three-quarters (81.3%) spoke English well or very well, 13.8% did not speak English well and a further 2.9% did not speak English at all. More than one-quarter (27.4%) of recent arrivals born in North-East Asia, did not speak English well and 6.9% of recent arrivals from North Africa and the Middle East did not speak English at all. Proficiency in English is important in determining access to education and training services as well as labour force participation.

RECENT ARRIVALS, Proficiency in Spoken English, Western Australia



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Labour force characteristics

Of the 93,527 persons who arrived in Australia between 2001 and 2006 and lived in Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census, 72,325 persons (77.3%) were aged more than 15 years old. Of these, more than half were employed (60.2% or 43,552 persons), a

third were not in the labour force (33.9% or 24,496 persons) and 4.8% (3,449 persons) were unemployed.

Compared with the total WA population (aged more than 15 years), recent arrivals had a similar proportion of employed persons (59.9% for WA) but a higher proportion who were unemployed (2.3% for WA). An important factor in using labour force status to determine mobility trends is that a person's labour force status is only recorded for the 2006 Census. It is unknown what labour force status a person had when they did move, or whether it changed between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses.

Differences in proportions of employed persons existed between country of birth regions. Persons born in the Oceania region had the highest proportion of employed persons (77.1%), followed by persons born in North-West Europe (69.4%). The lowest proportions of employed were among those born in the North Africa and Middle-East region (30.8%) and the North-East Asia region (40.8%).

A possible reason for the lower employed proportions from some regions is that recent arrivals include persons attending educational institutions to improve language and develop other skills. For example, of the 1,685 persons born in North Africa and the Middle East who were not in the labour force, 57.9% were attending an educational institution. For persons born in North-East Asia, 71.8% of those not in the labour force, were attending an educational institution.

Industry and occupation data provide further information about Western Australia's recent arrivals. Of the 43,553 recent arrivals working at the time of the 2006 Census, the highest proportion were working in the health care and social assistance industry (11.8%) while 11.0% were working in manufacturing and 10.6% in the accommodation and food services industry. While the employment pattern of recent arrivals by industry group was fairly similar to the total employed WA population, the proportion employed in the accommodation and food services industry was double that of the total WA employed population (10.6% compared to 5.6%), and slightly higher in the manufacturing industry (11.0% compared to 9.4%).

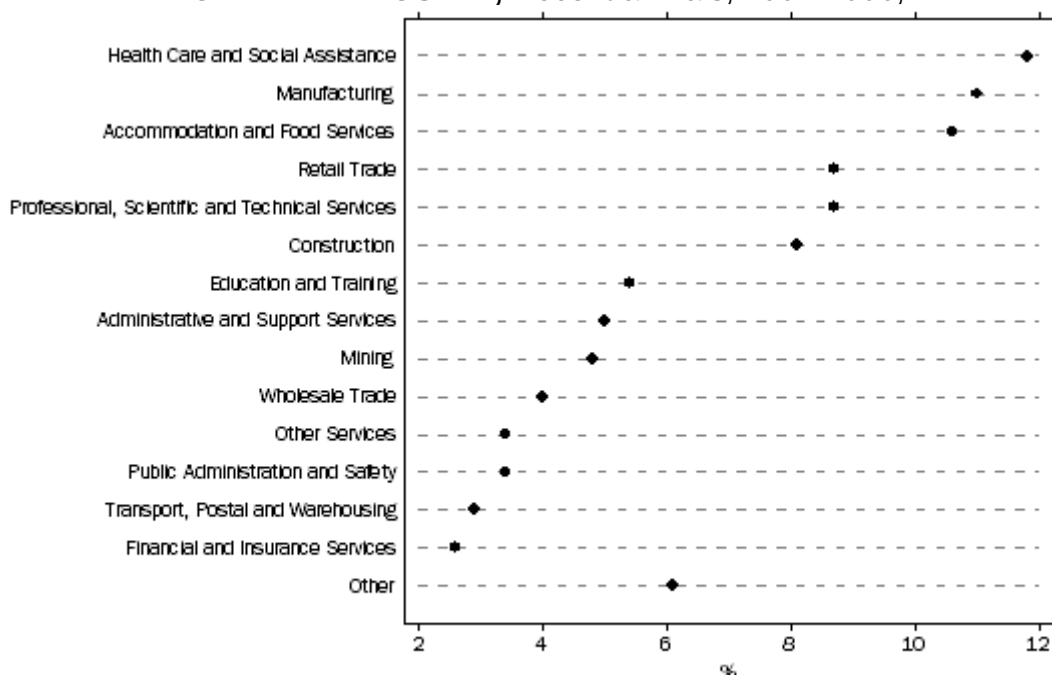
RECENT ARRIVALS, EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY GROUP, Western Australia, 2006 Census

	Recent arrivals		Total employed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	684	1.6	30 045	3.4
Mining	2 087	4.8	37 160	4.2
Manufacturing	4 802	11.0	83 160	9.4
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	444	1.0	9 052	1.0
Construction	3 549	8.1	80 827	9.1
Wholesale Trade	1 758	4.0	35 206	4.0
Retail Trade	3 802	8.7	99 985	11.3
Accommodation and Food Services	4 605	10.6	49 691	5.6
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	1 271	2.9	37 954	4.3
Information Media and Telecommunications	458	1.1	11 836	1.3
Financial and Insurance Services	1 149	2.6	25 594	2.9
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	643	1.5	17 604	2.0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3 783	8.7	53 898	6.1
Administrative and Support Services	2 159	5.0	27 243	3.1
Public Administration and Safety	1 464	3.4	57 979	6.6
Education and Training	2 363	5.4	68 560	7.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	5 155	11.8	89 136	10.1
Arts and Recreation Services	394	0.9	11 087	1.3
Other Services	1 490	3.4	33 970	3.8
Inadequately described	669	1.5	12 865	1.5

Not stated	824	1.9	10 986	1.2
Total	43 553	100.0	883 790	100.0

Source: Unpublished 2006 Census data

EMPLOYMENT INDUSTRY, Recent arrivals, 2001-2006, WA



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Differences in industry employment were noticeable when analysing a person's country of birth region. High proportions of persons born in the Oceania region were employed in the construction (12.3%) and manufacturing industries (11.7%). Persons from North-West Europe were employed in health care and social assistance (15%) and construction (11.7%). Over one-quarter (29%) of persons born in North-East Asia worked in the accommodation and food services industry and 14% of persons born in the Americas worked in the professional, scientific and technical services industry.

Recent arrivals were more highly represented in the occupations of professionals (24.5%) and labourers (14%) than the total WA population (18.1% and 10.8% respectively). In the professional occupation group, more than one-quarter (26.2% or 2,795) were employed as health professionals. Of these, over half (52.4%) were born in North-West Europe and a further 19.4% were born in Sub-Saharan Africa. In the labourer occupation group, almost one-third (30.5% or 1,864) were employed as cleaners and laundry workers. Of these, almost one-quarter (22.3%) were born in South-East Asia and a further 17% were born in Sub-Saharan Africa.

RECENT ARRIVALS, EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION GROUP, Western Australia, 2006 Census

	Recent arrivals		Total employed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Managers	4 197	9.6	111 465	12.6
Professionals	10 651	24.5	159 750	18.1
Technicians and Trades Workers	7 423	17.0	145 088	16.4
Community and Personal Service Workers	4 392	10.1	77 970	8.8
Clerical and Administrative Workers	4 718	10.8	129 950	14.7
Sales Workers	3 154	7.2	84 473	9.6

Machinery Operators and Drivers	2 307	5.3	65 333	7.4
Labourers	6 103	14.0	95 729	10.8
Inadequately described	356	0.8	6 836	0.8
Not stated	252	0.6	7 191	0.8
Total	43 553	100.0	883 785	100.0

Source: Unpublished 2006 Census data

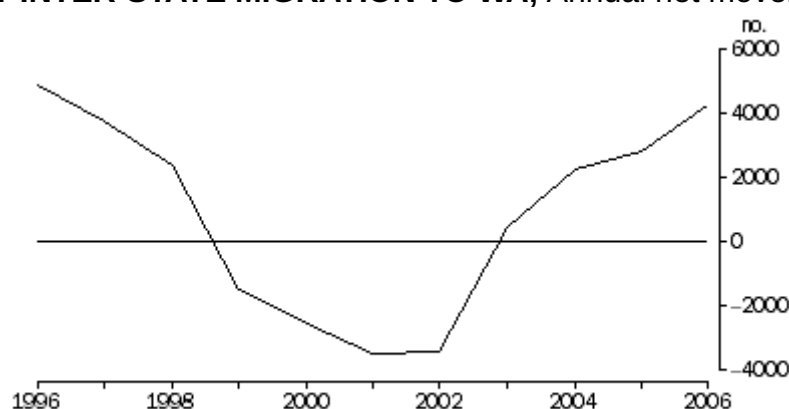
Recent overseas arrivals (aged 15 years or more) were almost twice as likely to have a bachelor degree or higher qualification than the total WA population (27.7% compared with 14.4%). However, they were less likely to have a certificate qualification (13.8% compared with 17.6%). As per industry and occupation data, differences exist between country of birth regions. For example, persons born in Southern and Central Asia had the highest proportion of bachelor degrees or higher (51.3%) compared with 12.7% of persons born in the Oceania region.

Individual median income in conjunction with industry and occupation data can be a useful indicator in determining incentives for a person to move to WA from overseas. The median income measure applies to employed persons only. The median weekly income of recent arrivals to WA was \$753 per week (\$39,156 pa), similar to the total WA employed population (\$755 per week). Recent arrivals from North-West Europe and the Oceania regions had higher median incomes (\$903 per week and \$803 per week respectively), compared with persons from North-East Asia (\$409 per week) and North-Africa and the Middle East (\$538 per week).

INTER-STATE MIGRATION

Mainly due to Western Australia's booming economy and associated employment opportunities, people have been increasingly moving to WA from other states and territories. While net inter-state migration has fluctuated over the last twenty years, since 2003 WA has had a positive net flow of people from other states and territories.

NET INTER-STATE MIGRATION TO WA, Annual net movement



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics, cat.no. 3101.0.

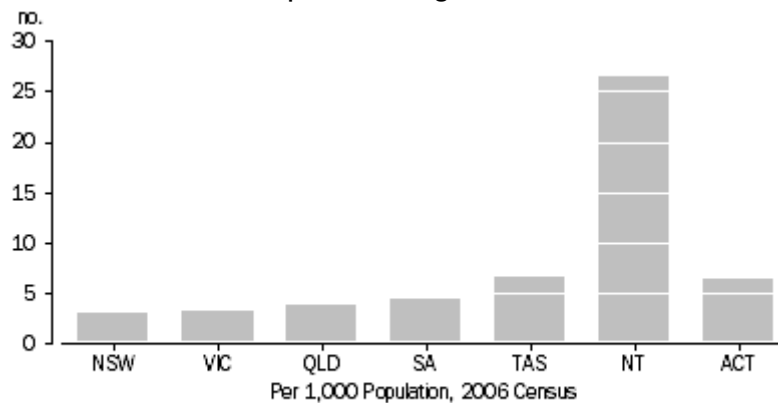
Lived inter-state 5 years ago

In gross inter-state migration terms, there were 62,930 persons who moved to Western Australia from another state or territory between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. Of all persons who moved to WA, inter-state migration accounted for 7.9%. A high proportion of inter-state movers came from NSW (29.5%) and almost a further one-quarter (23.8%) came

from Victoria.

When the number of people who moved to WA is placed in context of the population size of the originating state or territory, differences in proportions appear. As the graph below illustrates, a higher proportion of persons from the Northern Territory migrated to Western Australia (26.6 persons per 1,000 of total 2006 NT population), compared with NSW (3.1 persons per 1,000 of NSW 2006 population).

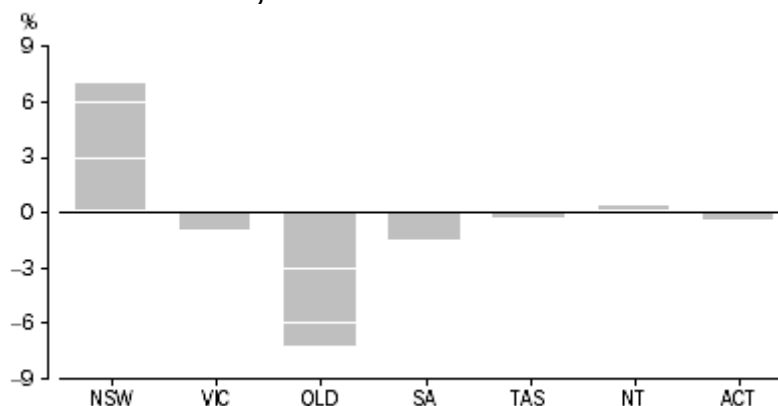
INTER-STATE MIGRATION, Per capita moving to WA, between 2001 and 2006 Census



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Net inter-state migration is a measure of how many people are also leaving Western Australia for other states and territories. In the five years to 2006, there was a positive net movement of people moving to Western Australia from NSW (7% or 4,962 people), whereas WA had a negative net movement to Queensland (-7.4% or a net loss of 4,179 people).

INTER-STATE MIGRATION, Net movements to and from WA - 2006 Census



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Regional movement

Of the 62,930 inter-state movers to Western Australia between the 2001 and 2006 Census, the majority (69.3%) moved to the Perth metropolitan area, and a further 9.1% moved to the South-West region. However, as a proportion of the total number of people who had moved within or from outside a particular region, the Kimberley had the highest proportion of people that had moved from inter-state (20.5%), closely followed by the Pilbara region (16.7%).

The resources boom has been an influential factor in the high proportion of inter-state movers to the Pilbara region, but to a lesser extent to the Kimberley. The higher Kimberley

ARRIVALS FROM INTER-STATE, Proportion of total movers by region - 2006 Census

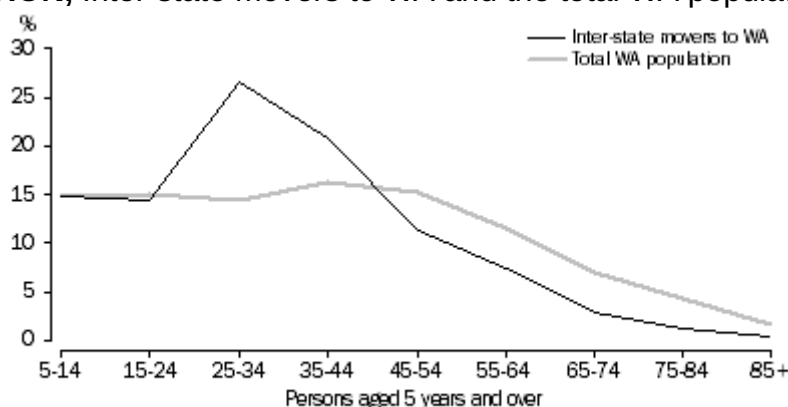


The median age for inter-state movers to the Pilbara was 32 years compared with 31 years for the total population in the Pilbara, and inter-state movers to the Kimberley had a median age of 34 years compared with 30 years for the total population in the Kimberley. However, these were still lower than the median age of 36 years for the total population in WA.

Age Group	Perth	South West	Lower Great Southern	Upper Great Southern	Midlands	South Eastern	Central	Pilbara	Kimberley	Total
NUMBER										
5 - 14	6 575	1 001	222	45	145	469	286	508	2559	506
15 - 24	6 657	722	153	31	121	578	207	386	3239	183
25 - 34	12 185	1 207	217	50	203	953	374	1 020	633	16 849
35 - 44	9 459	1 146	227	40	136	592	339	686	460	13 096
45 - 54	4 692	680	163	25	134	378	254	437	3277	095
55 - 64	2 681	592	126	17	130	177	185	187	2424	337
65 and over	1 981	436	90	13	73	72	91	32	742	862
Total	44 230	5 784	1 198	221	942	3 219	1 736	3 256	2 314	62 928
PERCENTAGE										

5 - 14	14.9	17.3	18.5	20.4	15.4	14.6	16.5	15.6	11.0	15.1
15 - 24	15.1	12.5	12.8	14.0	12.8	18.0	11.9	11.9	14.0	14.6
25 - 34	27.5	20.9	18.1	22.6	21.5	29.6	21.5	31.3	27.4	26.8
35 - 44	21.4	19.8	18.9	18.1	14.4	18.4	19.5	21.1	19.9	20.8
45 - 54	10.6	11.8	13.6	11.3	14.2	11.7	14.6	13.4	14.1	11.3
55 - 64	6.1	10.2	10.5	7.7	13.8	5.5	10.7	5.7	10.5	6.9
65 and over	4.5	7.5	7.5	5.9	7.7	2.2	5.2	1.0	3.2	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Median Age - Inter-state	32.0	34.0	35.0	30.0	35.0	30.0	35.0	32.0	34.0	32.0
Median Age - Total population	36.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	40.0	32.0	36.0	31.0	30.0	36.0

AGE DISTRIBUTION, Inter-state movers to WA and the total WA population: 2006 Census



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

The proportion of inter-state movers living in couple with children households was lower than for the total WA population (43.1% compared with 49.3%), but higher in couple only households (23.6% compared with 21.4%) and group households (6.3% compared with 2.8%).

In the Kimberley region, 30.4% of inter-state movers lived in couple only households, while 28.6% were in couple with children households. A further 14.3% were in lone person households and 8.3% lived in group households

Labour force characteristics

Of the 62,930 people who moved to WA from another state or territory between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, 84.9% were aged over 15 years. Of these, 71.4% were employed, 3.7% were unemployed while 24.1% were not in the labour force at the time of the 2006 Census. By comparison, 59.9% of the total WA population aged over 15 years were employed and 30.6% were not in the labour force.

As previously mentioned, the Census records each person's labour force status only at the time of the Census. Therefore, it is neither known what labour force status a person had when they did move, nor what changes to their status occurred between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses.

Sex divisions exist in the labour force status of inter-state movers. More than three-quarters (80.7%) of male inter-state movers were employed compared with 61.6% of females. The proportion of female inter-state movers who were not in the labour force was over double that of male inter-state movers (33.7% and 15.1% respectively). This possibly reflects the movement of single income couple households (with or without children). In comparison, the

proportions of total WA females and males (aged more than 15 years) not in the labour force were 37.7% and 23.3% respectively.

Perth had the largest number of unemployed inter-state movers (1,366). As a proportion of the total inter-state movers in a region, the Upper Great Southern had the highest proportion of unemployed inter-state movers (7.1%). The lowest proportion of inter-state movers that were unemployed resided in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions (2.3% and 2.5% respectively).

Perth also had the largest number of inter-state movers who were not in the labour force (9,060), however the Upper Great Southern, Lower Great Southern and the Midlands regions had the highest proportion of inter-state movers who were not in the labour force (37.5% for all regions).

Industry and occupation data may provide an indication as to why people moved to WA from another state or territory. Of the 38,159 employed inter-state movers, one in ten were employed in public administration and safety (10.1%). A further 9.2% were employed in health care and social assistance, 9.0% in retail trade and 8.6% in mining.

The proportions for inter-state movers were roughly similar to the total for WA for the majority of industry groups. The most notable difference occurred in the mining industry where the proportion (8.6%) of inter-state movers was twice that of the total WA population (4.2%). Inter-state movers were less likely to work in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry (1.7% inter-state movers compared with 3.4% total WA) and the education and training industry (5.3% of inter-state movers compared with 7.8% for total WA).

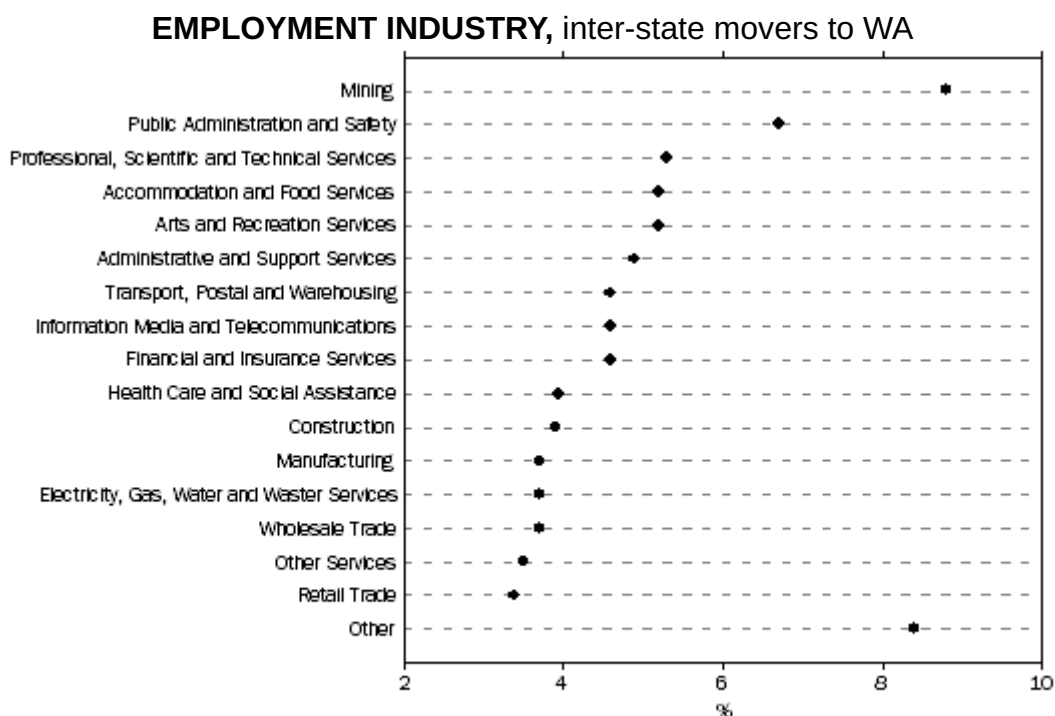
INTER-STATE MOVERS TO WA, EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY GROUP, Western Australia, 2006 Census

	Inter-state Movers		Total employed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	639	1.7	30 045	3.4
Mining	3 274	8.6	37 160	4.2
Manufacturing	3 111	8.2	83 160	9.4
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	334	0.9	9 052	1.0
Construction	3 174	8.3	80 827	9.1
Wholesale Trade	1 382	3.6	35 206	4.0
Retail Trade	3 417	9.0	99 985	11.3
Accommodation and Food Services	2 576	6.8	49 691	5.6
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	1 757	4.6	37 954	4.3
Information Media and Telecommunications	542	1.4	11 836	1.3
Financial and Insurance Services	1 180	3.1	25 594	2.9
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	599	1.6	17 604	2.0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	2 851	7.5	53 898	6.1
Administrative and Support Services	1 327	3.5	27 243	3.1
Public Administration and Safety	3 859	10.1	57 979	6.6
Education and Training	2 009	5.3	68 560	7.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	3 523	9.2	89 136	10.1
Arts and Recreation Services	579	1.5	11 087	1.3
Other Services	1 202	3.1	33 970	3.8
Inadequately described	533	1.4	12 865	1.5
Not stated	291	0.8	10 986	1.2
Total	38 159	100.0	883 790	100.0

Source: Unpublished 2006 Census data

Further analysis of inter-state migration by industry group shows that in the mining industry,

8.8% of all employees had moved from another state or territory to WA between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. This was followed by 6.7% of public administration and safety employees.



Of the 38,159 employed inter-state movers, almost one-quarter (23.7%) were employed in professional occupations and a further 16% were technicians and trades workers. Compared with industry groups, occupation groups were more uniform between inter-state movers and the total employed WA population. The only significant difference was that inter-state movers were more likely to work in professional occupations (23.7% compared with 18.1% for the total WA employed population). Of the professional inter-state movers, almost one-third (29.6%) were employed as design, engineering, science and transport professionals, followed by business, human resource and marketing professionals (21.2%).

INTER-STATE MOVERS TO WA, EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION GROUP, Western Australia, 2006 Census

	Inter-state Movers		Total employed	
	No.	%	No.	%
Managers	4 993	13.1	111 465	12.6
Professionals	9 029	23.7	159 750	18.1
Technicians and Trades Workers	6 084	15.9	145 088	16.4
Community and Personal Service Workers	3 562	9.3	77 970	8.8
Clerical and Administrative Workers	4 627	12.1	129 950	14.7
Sales Workers	2 899	7.6	84 473	9.6
Machinery Operators and Drivers	2 941	7.7	65 333	7.4
Labourers	3 611	9.5	95 729	10.8
Inadequately described	151	0.4	6 836	0.8
Not stated	263	0.7	7 191	0.8
Total	38 160	100.0	883 785	100.0

The proportion of inter-state movers (aged more than 15 years) to WA between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses who had a bachelor degree or higher qualification was almost double the proportion for the total WA population (23.6% compared with 14.4%). Similarly,

certificate level qualifications were higher among inter-state movers than for the total WA population (21.8% compared with 17.6% for total WA population). The level of education of inter-state movers further supports the higher proportion of inter-state movers in professional and technician and trade occupations.

Individual median income in conjunction with industry and occupation data is a useful indicator in determining incentives for a person to move inter-state. The median income measure applies only to employed persons. The median weekly income of employed persons who moved to WA from another state or territory was \$905 (\$47,060 pa), which was \$150 per week higher than for the total WA population (\$755 per week). Median income differences between inter-state movers and the total WA population were greatest in the South Eastern region (inter-state movers \$1,039 per week compared with \$858 per week) and Perth (inter-state movers \$911 per week compared with \$766 per week).

INTERNAL MOBILITY

Of the people who lived in Western Australia between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, more than two-fifths had moved within WA over the five year period (42.2%). Of these, 37.8% moved within the same Statistical Local Area (SLA). Even though migration and mobility trends usually focus on inter-state and overseas migration, WA's mobile population should be investigated to determine the extent of people moving for economic opportunities, lifestyle changes and the locations they choose.

However, determining a person's motivation to move is difficult to measure as people move for very diverse reasons. For example, life cycle changes can include common motivators, such as younger people moving for education, or older people moving to be closer to services or family.

In 2005, an ABS survey of mobility intentions and motivations revealed that, of the total WA population, 48% or 700,100 persons had moved in the five years previously, with the majority moving within WA (90%). Of these movers, 34.4% moved due to a change in personal or family circumstances, with 24% moving to live with their partner or to get married. The survey also identified that 24.7% intended to move within the next three years, 70.9% moving within WA.

This analysis uses 2006 Census data about people who moved within Western Australia between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. There are however a few data issues to be considered. For example, the Census only measures moves between Census nights but many people may move more than once in a five year period. Also the Census relies on respondents to understand and interpret questions correctly.

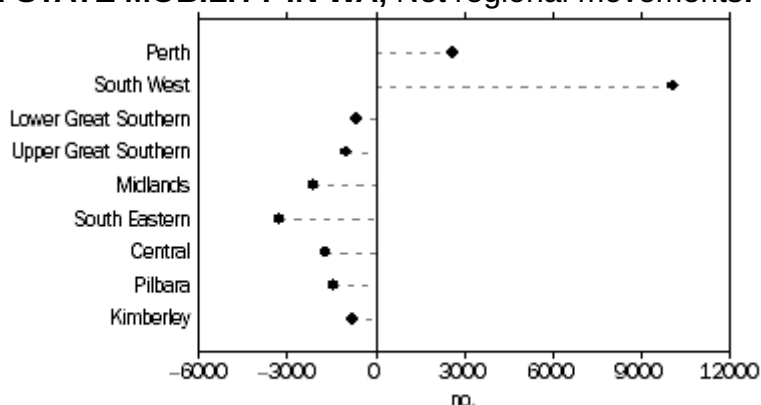
A common concern is the reporting by fly-in fly-out workers in the mining industry, who report that their 'usual' address is their home address where their partner and children live, but not the actual residence where they have or intend to spend six months or more, as required on the Census form. Therefore, some of these employees may not be counted according to their usual place of residence due to the respondent not interpreting the question correctly.

Lived somewhere else in WA 5 years earlier

Of the 42.2% of Western Australians who moved between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, almost two-thirds (62.2%) had moved outside their SLA in Western Australia. The Perth metropolitan area had one of the lowest mobility proportions of all regions in Western

Australia. Approximately half of Perth residents (49% or 663,948 persons) had not moved from their usual address between the 2001 and 2006 Census and a further 12.4% who had moved, had moved to another address in the same SLA. Of the 583,668 persons who were counted living in Perth in the 2006 Census who had moved, 77.4% had moved within Western Australia.

INTRA-STATE MOBILITY IN WA, Net regional movements: 2006



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

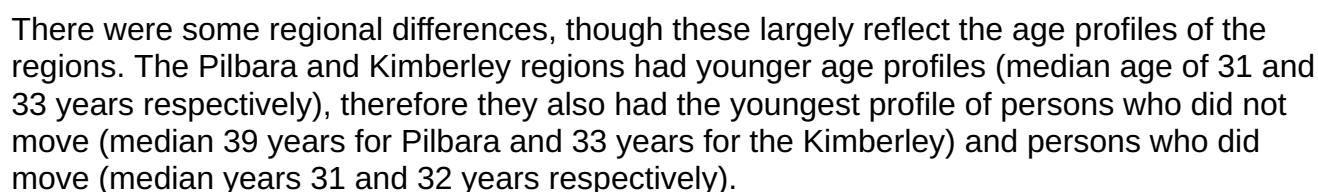
Approximately 4.4% (47,450) of Western Australians moved to Perth from another region in WA during the period 2001 to 2006. Of these, 28% moved to Perth from the South-West, 15% from the Midlands region and 13% from the Pilbara region. Over the same period, 4.2% (45,752) moved from Perth to another region in WA; Of these, 42.4% moved to the South-West, 14.5% to the Midlands region and 10.7% to the Pilbara. Therefore, Perth had a small net gain of people between 2001 and 2006 (0.2% or 1,698 people).

All regions except for the South-West had more people moving to Perth than from Perth. More people moved from the Perth region to the South West between 2001 and 2006, rather than moving from the South-West to Perth (net movement -14.4% or a net loss of 6,907 people). The South West is a popular destination for persons looking for a sea or tree change after they have retired or a lifestyle change at any age.

The Pilbara region had a more mobile population between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses. Almost half (44.1% or 19,505) the population counted as living in the Pilbara region at the time of the 2006 Census, had moved since the 2001 Census. Half of the movers (50.3%) had moved from another region in WA. Not surprisingly the current resources boom has influenced the mobility characteristics of persons in the Pilbara region.

Internal mover demographics

The median age of all persons counted in Western Australia at the time of the 2006 Census was 36 years. The median age of persons who had moved within WA between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses was three years younger (33 years) while the median age of people who had not moved was 46 years. The age differences between people who had moved and those who did not move, as shown in the graph below, probably reflects the tendency for younger people to be more mobile when looking for employment opportunities or moving for personal reasons such as changes in marital status or leaving the family home.



Age Group	Perth	South West	Lower Southern	Great Southern	Upper Southern	Midlands	South Eastern	Central	Pilbara	Kimberley	Total
NUMBER											
5 - 14	69 381	14 107		3 433		973	3 113	3 442	3 818	2 778	1 369 102 414
15 - 24	80 155	11 590		2 860		1 023	2 371	3 246	3 209	2 270	1 374 108 111
25 - 34	96 327	12 745		3 142		1 057	2 732	4 034	3 673	3 634	1 911 129 285
35 - 44	81 315	13 531		3 270		849	2 852	3 360	3 675	3 089	1 580 113 548
45 - 54	56 256	10 699		2 602		666	2 335	2 157	2 604	1 857	1 205 80 388
55 - 64	35 089	9 062		1 963		567	2 047	1 068	1 768	714	574 52 855
65 and over	32 214	9 087		1 873		487	1 421	620	1 458	199	258 47 617
Total	381 356	66 714		15 710		4 649	13 758	14 485	16 387	11 763	6 902 531 804
PERCENTAGE											
5 - 14	18.2	21.1		21.9		20.9	22.6	23.8	23.3	23.6	19.8 19.3
15 - 24	21.0	17.4		18.2		22.0	17.2	22.4	19.6	19.3	19.9 20.3
25 - 34	25.3	19.1		20.0		22.7	19.9	27.8	22.4	30.9	27.7 24.3
35 - 44	21.3	20.3		20.8		18.3	20.7	23.2	22.4	26.3	22.9 21.4
45 - 54	14.8	16.0		16.6		14.3	17.0	14.9	15.9	15.8	17.5 15.1
55 - 64	9.2	13.6		12.5		12.2	14.9	7.4	10.8	6.1	8.3 9.9
65 and over	8.4	13.6		11.9		10.5	10.3	4.3	8.9	1.7	3.7 9.0
Total	100.0	100.0		100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0 100.0

Median Age - Intra-state	32.0	36.0	35.0	32.0	35.0	30.0	33.0	31.0	32.0	33.0
Median Age - Total population	36.0	39.0	39.0	39.0	40.0	32.0	36.0	31.0	30.0	36.0

Almost equal proportions of males and females indicated in the 2006 Census that they had moved between the 2001 and 2006 Census (47.4% and 47.9% respectively). Of these movers, similar proportions of males and females moved to another region within WA (49.2% compared to 49.6% respectively). There also appeared to be no distinct proportional differences between the movement of males and females in regional areas.

Relationships and household formation is also important in defining the characteristics of internal movers in Western Australia. Of those who had moved within WA between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, 44.8% lived in couple with children households (49.3% for total WA), and 21.9% lived in couple only households (21.4% for total WA). A further one in ten movers (10.9%) lived in lone person households (10.5% for WA). In the Pilbara region, 55.9% of movers lived in couple with children households for WA, whereas in the South-West one-quarter (25.4%) of movers lived in couple only households. The region with the highest proportion of movers living in lone person households was the Upper Great Southern region (13.2%).

Labour force characteristics

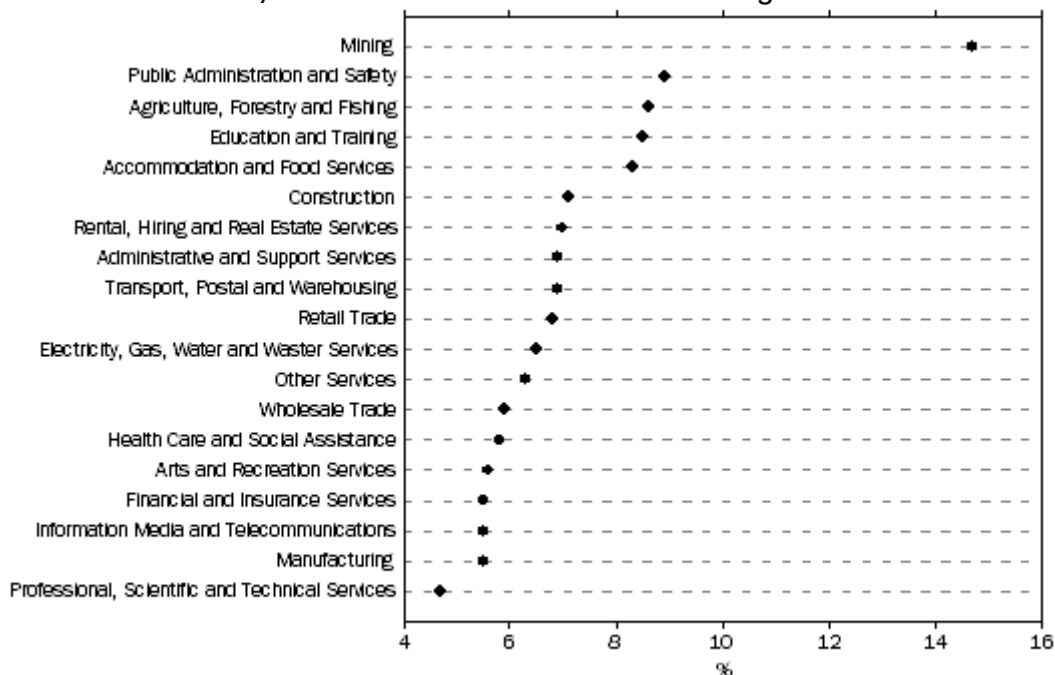
Labour force status can offer some insight into differences in mobility patterns: for example employed persons were less likely to move to a different region within Western Australia, than unemployed persons. Of the employed persons living in WA, 370,191 or 39.5% had moved within WA between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses, whereas 41.3% or 15,127 unemployed persons had moved over the same period. Unemployed persons who had previously lived in regions outside of Perth at the time of the 2001 Census, were proportionately more likely to move to Perth (7.7%) compared with employed persons (4.1%).

Again it should be noted, when using labour force status to analyse mobility, that a person's labour force status is only recorded for the 2006 Census: thus it is unknown what labour force status a person had when they moved or changes to their status occurred, between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses.

Persons who were not in the labour force at the time of the 2006 Census, were the least likely to move between the 2001 and 2006 Censuses (29.5% or 141,086 persons moved within WA). The median age of these movers was 61 years, in all likelihood reflecting the movement of retirees. This is further supported by regional movement analysis, where one-third (33.8%) of movers to the South-West region were not in the labour force.

Industry and occupation analysis also highlights whether employment is an important factor in movement within Western Australia. Of employed persons who were counted as living in WA in 2006, more than one-third (32.5%) had moved within the same region, while 7.1% had moved to another region. Not surprisingly people employed in the mining industry were more likely to move within WA (44.5%). In the mining industry, 14.7% had moved from another region in WA. Employed persons working in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry had the lowest proportion of movers within WA (26.8%) and the professional, scientific and technical services industry were the least likely to move to another region within WA (4.7%).

INDUSTRY MOBILITY, Persons who moved to another region in WA - 2006 Census



Source: unpublished 2006 Census data

Not surprisingly, employees in the Pilbara and South Eastern regions of WA were highly mobile; 48.1% of employed people counted in the Pilbara region had moved in the five years prior to the 2006 Census and 42.5% of employed people in the South Eastern region (compared with 39.5% for WA). There were some industries in these regions that did influence mobility patterns more than others. The largest number of people employed in the Pilbara worked in the mining and construction industries (7,836 persons or 40.1%). In the Pilbara, 46.7% of people employed in the mining industry and 50.9% of people employed in the construction industry, had moved in the five years between the 2001 and 2006 Census.

Of all occupational groups, the professionals and technicians and trades occupation groups had the highest mobility proportions (40.2% and 40.3% respectively). Professionals accounted for 18.6% (173,955) of all employed persons in WA at the time of the 2006 Census. Of the professionals that had moved, 82.9% had moved within the same region and a further 17.1% had moved to another region within WA. Of the professionals who moved to another region, one-third (33.5%) were education professionals and a further 19.6% were design, engineering, science and transport professionals. In the technician and trade occupation group, 82.4% had moved within the same region and a further 17.6% had moved to another region in WA. Of the technicians and trade occupations who moved to another region, 30% were automotive and engineering trades workers, 16.7% construction trades workers and a further 16.2% were engineering, ICT and science technicians.

Mobility among persons (aged 15 years or more) between 2001 and 2006 with a post-school qualification was higher than among persons with no qualifications (38.6% compared to 35.4%). Of qualified persons, people with a certificate were slightly more likely to move (40.2%) compared to persons with a bachelor degree or higher (38%). Also people with a certificate were more likely to move to another region within WA (8.2%) compared to people with a bachelor degree or higher (6.5%).

Individual median income, in conjunction with industry and occupation data, could be a useful indicator in determining incentives for a person to move within WA. The median income measure applies only to employed persons. The median weekly income of employed persons who moved within WA was \$779 per week (\$40,508 pa), which was \$24

per week more than for the total employed WA population (\$755 per week). Median income differences between persons who moved within the same region and those who moved to a different region, were slightly different (\$778 per week and \$784 per week respectively).

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Explanatory Notes

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABARE	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
Aust.	Australia
ERP	estimated resident population
n.e.s.	not elsewhere specified
n.f.d.	not further defined
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
WA	Western Australia